

## **PROCLAMATION** INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT AND WELLNESS WEEK JANUARY 31 – FEBRUARY 6, 2010

WHEREAS, North Dakota is blessed with a multitude of children and families – an essential part of the cultural, social and spiritual fabric of our state; and

WHEREAS, strong families are at the core of strong communities; and

WHEREAS, preserving the cultural heritage of Native American families and children is important for the future of our state; and

WHEREAS, the Indian Child Welfare Act, passed by the United States Congress in 1978, emphasizes the importance of Native American families being involved in the decisions and policies that affect their children; and

WHEREAS, it is important for state and tribal agencies to continue to work together to ensure a future of hope and opportunity for all North Dakota children and families.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim January 31-February 6, 2010, INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT AND WELLNESS WEEK in the state of North Dakota.

ATTEST

Alvin A. Jaeger

Secretary of State